



Related Activities to Try at Home (page 1 of 2)

Dear Family,

The activities below are related to the mathematics in *How Many Floors? How Many Rooms?* You can do these activities together to enrich your child's mathematical learning.

Drawing Buildings Using your home or a familiar building, your child can count the number of rooms on 1 floor. Draw this floor and label what the different rooms are. Then ask questions such as, "If there are 2 floors in this building that have the same number of rooms, how many rooms would there be?" "How many rooms on 3 floors?"

Making Buildings Use building blocks to make a building. Make the first floor of your building with each block representing one room. Discuss how many rooms there are and what the different rooms could be. Make a second floor that is exactly the same size and shape as the first. Use additional blocks to make the building higher, with each floor having the same number of rooms. As you add each floor, count the total number of rooms. Write down the total number of rooms for 1 floor, 2 floors, 3, floors, and so on. Ask, "What do you notice about how the total number of rooms changes?"

Total Number of Floors	Total Number of Rooms
1	4
2	8
3	12
4	?
5	?

(continued)



Related Activities to Try at Home (page 2 of 2)

Making Patterns Making repeating patterns is a great way to learn about them. At home, your child might use coins, bottle caps, or buttons to make a pattern. For example, make the following pattern: *penny, penny, dime, penny, penny, dime*. Ask your child what comes next if the pattern continues in the same way. Then have your child make a pattern for you to continue. Drawing patterns lets you compare several completed patterns and ask, “What is the same and what is different about them?”

Animal Legs Choose an animal that your child likes (e.g., cats) and make a table about the number of cats and their legs (or paws, eyes, and so on). Start with 1 cat and fill in how many legs 1 cat has. Then add another cat and fill in the total number of legs that 2 cats have. Continue the table and discuss the pattern that emerges. See whether you can determine what comes next.

Cats	Legs
1	4
2	8
3	12
4	?

Math and Literature Here are some suggestions of children’s books that contain ideas about patterns. Read them together, and discuss the patterns you find.

Clement, Rod. *Counting on Frank*.

Jenkins, Steve. *Biggest, Strongest, Fastest*.

Kassirer, Sue. *What’s Next, Nina?* Math Matters Series.

Murphy, Stuart J. *Beep Beep, Vroom Vroom!*

Schwartz, David M. *If You Hopped Like a Frog*.

Watts, Barrie. *Watch It Grow Series*.

